

Middletown Springs Board of School Directors (Regular) Meeting

Date: August 16, 2012

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Middletown Springs Elementary School

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Present: Clarence Haynes, Steven Letendre, Kendra Larson, Meredith Morgan (Board Members).

Also Present: Joan Paustian (Superintendent), Rick Beal (Principal), Susan Rosso (Recording Secretary), April Simpson (Art Teacher). Public Present: None

1. Call to Order **(Action)**

Mr. Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:02PM.

2. Presentation (if applicable): None

3. Consent Agenda: **(Action)**

a. Approval of Minutes – Unofficial Minutes from:

1. July 18, 2012 (Regular)

Minutes of July 18, 2012 were reviewed. Kendra Larson moved to accept the minutes of July 18, 2012, Steven Letendre seconded; motion carried.

b. Superintendent's Report (Written):

Supt. Paustian reported that all of the Admin. Team members were at the Leadership Academy in Killington the first week of August. Mr. Daggett was also at the conference. He is a national specialist on essential standards. He says that while Vermont's standards are good, there are too many. We need to move from content-based learning to applications-based learning. Dr. Collins held a writing conference this week that was attended by Rick Beal, Lea Pettis, and Lorraine Wilkins. Dr. Collins will be working in the SU with all K-12 people over the year. The VT Superintendents Leadership Team has met. They are considering the role of superintendents as educational leaders to rewrite quality standards as the DOE has not done this to date. They are also looking for ways to work with the new secretary of education (now appointed). Our Business Manager, Louis Milazzo was at the state meals program training this week. Statistical reports were due to the state today and have been sent in. The SECT data was done in time for all SU schools; except for the high school who encountered problems with a software program. Peter Mello will be at the SU in-service training on August 27. He is currently working on CFP grant paperwork. Discussion ensued on the annual AYP scores. The math curriculum was discussed as well as the Collins reading program. The SU is looking at other types of assessment and MSES will be implementing AIMSWeb for mathematics this year (already using it for reading).

c. Principal's Report (no written report this month) :

The Summer Program went very well academically—the program was very well planned and implemented. Mr. Beal would like to send “kudos” to the staff who worked the program this year. Mr. Beal stated that he is pleased that a good number of staff members took courses over the summer. Discussion about the Young Scholars program ensued; there have been personnel and cost changes. Mr. Beal, who attended the VPA conference, found Mr. Daggett to be a wonderful speaker with a lot of tech knowledge, including ways of applying the software/curriculum to real world

problems/experiences. He reported that Eva Gonova (Instructional Assistant) has resigned; interviews will take place shortly. The Pre-K move is complete and the toilet has been installed. The grades 3/4 and 5/6 rooms were switched, the 5/6 room has a new tile floor and has been freshly painted. New carpeting has been installed in the old Pre-K/new Conference room. The roof repairs will begin soon. Enman Engineering will update the water system plan so the project can be put out to bid. The community garden continues to flourish; rain barrels have been put in to conserve water. Kendra Larson asked for a list of staff members who took professional development this summer so that the Board can recognize them. Mr. Beal will provide this.

d. Business Manager's Report

i. Financial Statements

Mr. Milazzo was not present this evening. Supt. Paustian reported on his behalf, that there is a more than \$50,000 budget surplus from last year. A spreadsheet prepared by Mr. Milazzo was distributed showing the sources of this surplus; lower expenses/higher revenues. She also distributed an information sheet from Mr. Milazzo regarding tax pre-bates from the state. Steven Letendre moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Kendra Larson seconded; motion carried.

4. Approve Warrants: **(Action)**

a. Warrant #137 in the amount of \$51,573.16 dated 7/27/12

Clarence Haynes moved to approve Warrant #137 in the amount of \$51,573.16 dated 7/27/12, Kendra Larson seconded; motion carried.

5. General Public Comments **(Listen & Defer Action to Future Meeting):** None

6. Executive Session 1 VSA § 313 (1-9) (a) (b) if warranted **(Discussion & Possible Action).**

Clarence Haynes moved that the Board enter Executive Session at 6:32PM for personnel matters, Steven Letendre seconded; motion carried. The Superintendent, Principal, Recording Secretary, and Art Teacher are part of the executive session. The Board then decided to further discuss the matter privately. The Recording Secretary, Principal, and Art Teacher left the room at 6:37PM.

Steven Letendre moved that the Board exit Executive Session at 6:52PM, Clarence Haynes seconded; motion carried. *Action Taken:* Clarence Haynes stated that the Board supports Art Teacher, April Simpson being released from her 2012-2013 contract to accept a full-time position elsewhere. He asked that Miss Simpson provide the Board with the recommendations she had offered for potential candidates.

7. New Business: **(Receive Information & Possible Action):** None

8. Old Business: **(Itemize Subjects for Deliberation & Possible Action)**

a. Board to ratify Support Staff Collective Bargaining Agreement

Clarence Haynes moved to ratify the Support Staff CBA for FY11-12 as presented, Meredith Morgan seconded; motion carried. Copies were signed and distributed; one to Board, one to Supt., and one to Recording Secretary (on behalf of the Support Staff Association).

b. Update on renovations, roofing, and other projects
Covered under "Principal's Report."

c. Sidewalk

Meredith Morgan informed the Board that an additional permit will be needed to tie the sidewalk into the drainage system. The person who handles these permits is on vacation so we will need to wait a few weeks to get approval for funding and go out to bid. It was noted that we might receive more competitive bids if we wait until winter when contractors are less busy. Another option is to move forward with going out to bid and postpone the work until later in the year (possibly spring break). By consensus, the decision is to continue to move ahead.

9. Policies (**For Adoption**): None

10. Executive Session 1 VSA § 313 (1-9) (a) (b) if warranted (**Discussion & Possible Action**).
Clarence Haynes moved to have the Board enter Executive Session at 7:27PM for legal issues, Steven Letendre seconded; the motion carried.

Kendra Larson moved to have the Board exit Executive Session at 7:43 PM, Meredith Morgan seconded; motion carried. No Action Taken:

11. Action on Personnel Contract (**Action**)

- i. New Hires:
.20 FTE teacher—Netta Austin
- ii. Resignations: Eva Gonova, Instructional Assistant
- iii. Termination: None
- iv. Other: None

Clarence Haynes moved to approve the hiring of Netta Austin as .20 FTE teacher, Kendra Larson seconded; motion carried.

Clarence Haynes moved to accept the resignation of Eva Gonova, Steven Letendre seconded; motion carried.

12. Other Lawful Business (**Information Gathering Only**): None

13. Set Next Board Meeting (Regular) & Agenda Building: (*Anticipated September 13, 2012, 6:00 p.m.*) (**Action**).
Next Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 6:00PM at MSES.

14. Adjournment (**Action**)
Steven Letendre moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 PM, Meredith Morgan seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Rosso
Recording Secretary